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For Immediate Release**COMMISSIONER STARKS ADDS MITCH LANDRIEU
AS NEW SPEAKER FOR CONNECTING BLACK COMMUNITIES EVENT**

WASHINGTON, February 17, 2022 — FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks has added Mitch Landrieu, Senior Advisor and White House Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator, as a speaker for “Connecting Black Communities: Federal, State, and Local Strategies for Closing the Digital Divide.” As announced this week, on February 22, 2022 at 11 a.m. ET, Commissioner Starks will virtually host an event that will highlight the impact of the digital divide on Black communities and plans to promote and enroll households in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). Additionally, panelists will discuss how households will benefit from the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program (BEAD) as well as additional state and local efforts to get families connected to and equipped with broadband, devices, and digital skills.

This upcoming event will convene federal leaders from the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Department of Commerce, the White House, and the FCC; state leaders from New York and Wisconsin; and local leaders from the cities of Chicago, Illinois and Augusta, Georgia. The event will be live streamed at www.fcc.gov/live.

Moderator:

- Dr. Fallon Wilson, Vice President of Policy, Multicultural Media, Telecom, & Internet Council

Speakers:

- Majority Whip Jim Clyburn, U.S. House of Representatives
- Secretary Gina Raimondo, U.S. Department of Commerce
- Mitch Landrieu, Senior Advisor and White House Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator
- Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, FCC
- Commissioner Brendan Carr, FCC
- Commissioner Nathan Simington, FCC

Panelists:

- Mandela Barnes, Lieutenant Governor, State of Wisconsin
- Brian Benjamin, Lieutenant Governor, State of New York
- Lori Lightfoot, Mayor, City of Chicago, Illinois
- Hardie Davis Jr., Mayor, City of Augusta, Georgia
- Scott Woods, Director of the Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives, NTIA

For additional information about the roundtable, please contact Alisa Valentin from the Office of FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks at (202) 418-2500 or Alisa.Valentin@fcc.gov.

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).